

## Written Statement: House Hearing, Thurs., June 3, 2021

Submitter:

Patrice Johnson, Acting Chair Pure Integrity for Michigan Elections https://pureintegritymichiganelections.org, purintegrityforme@gmail.com, 517-420-7978

In support: Eaton County Republican

Women's Alliance

To: the House Committee on Elections 8:15 a.m., House Office Building, Room 3 26,100 S. Capitol Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933, Amy Rostkowycz, arostkowycz@house.mi.gov (517) 373-1260

## **Bolded or struck or vellow language signifies PIME's recommended changes:**

This written statement addresses one bill, HB 4897, authorizes elections challengers designated to a city or township clerk's office or satellite office on election day. Julie Calley (R)

PIME recommends the following:

AMEND HB 4897 to add or delete yellowed and bolded items as follows:

- 1. To enable only the two major parties to certify challengers.
- 2. To extend challenger access to unobstructed views at distances to the challenger's satisfaction.
- 3. To allow challengers to perform their duties wherever ballots are processed, received, counted or stored with precautions in place to secure voter rights to secret ballots.
- 4. To ensure that the clerks must accept the challengers as selected and recommended by the two major parties.
- 5. To define "disorderly conduct" to eliminate vague language and to specifically exclude the challenger's adamant performance of his or her duties.

--Sec. 730. (1) At an election, the two major political partyies or an incorporated organization or organized committee of citizens...may designate challengers, and the election inspectors and city and township clerks must accept and provide a readable and unobstructed view of the ballots to the challenger's satisfaction as provided in this act....

A political party, incorporated organization, or organized committee of interested citizens may designate, and election inspectors and city and township clerks must accept, 2 additional challengers at city or township clerks' offices, or satellite offices of the city or township clerk, or any location where ballots are received, stored, opened, or processed in any way, or



where exists an absent voter counting board, including an absent voter counting board er a combined absent voter counting board established under section 764d exists, if any area where the absent voter ballots are being processed by election inspectors at that absent voter counting board or combined absent voter counting board cannot be properly viewed. Challengers will be allowed unobstructed views, including but not limited to, any area where the adjudication machine or ballot tabulators are located. A political party, incorporated organization, or organized committee of interested citizens may designate not more than 2 challengers to serve at a city or township clerk's office or any satellite office of the city or township clerk, in an area designated by the clerk for challengers, at any 1 time on election day during the election process and at any location where ballots are received, stored, opened, or processed in any way.

- Sec. 733. (1) The board of election inspectors shall provide space for the challengers within the polling place that enables the challengers to have unobstructed and clear views to observe the all election procedures and each person individual applying to vote.

  Only those views that would violate the elector's right to cast a secret ballot will be excluded.
- (a) Under the scrutiny of an election inspector and at an unobstructed and clearly readable distance to the challenger, inspect without handling the poll books as ballots are issued to electors and the electors' names being entered in the poll book.
- (b) Observe at an unobstructed and clearly readable distance to the challenger the manner in which the duties of the election inspectors are being performed.
- (g) Examine at an unobstructed and clearly readable distance to the challenger without handling each ballot as it is being counted.
- (i) Observe at an unobstructed and clearly readable distance to the challenger the recording of absent voter ballots on voting machines.
- (2) The board of election inspectors shall provide space for each challenger, if any, at each counting board. This space must enable the challengers to observe, via an unobstructed and clearly readable view, the counting of the ballots. A challenger at the counting board may do 1 or more of the activities allowed in subsection (1), as applicable.



- 3) On election day, eEach city or township clerk must provide the challenger at the city or township clerk's office or any satellite office of the city or township clerk space that enables unobstructed and clearly discernible views to observe electors who are registering to vote and voting an absent voter ballot at the city or township clerk's office or any satellite office of the city or township clerk on election day. A challenger under this subsection may do 1 or more of the following:
- (4) All challenges made by challengers at the city or township clerk's office or any satellite office of the city or township clerk on election day under subsection (3) must be recorded by the city or township clerk in a poll book addendum that must be delivered with the absent voter ballots to the location where those absent voter ballots will be tabulated.
- (5) (3) Any evidence of drinking of alcoholic beverages or disorderly conduct is sufficient cause for the expulsion

Respectfully submitted,

Patrice Johnson, on behalf of PIME Legislative Committees, and the Eaton County Republican Women's Alliance